

JSC Standards of Ethical Conduct Determination
[Section 2635.204(g)(2)-(6) -- Widely Attended Gatherings]

On Thursday, May 13, 2004, the Houston Technology Center (HTC) will host the 2004 Gala Fundraiser at the River Oaks Country Club in Houston, TX. The reception is to honor Dr. John Mendelsohn and Mrs. Mendelsohn and will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Dr. Mendelsohn is the President of the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and Mrs. Mendelsohn has recently completed tenure as Chair Person of the Board Museum of National Science. NASA officials and their guests have been invited to attend and participate in this event at no cost.

HTC is a business accelerator that incubates emerging technology companies within several key industries. The NASA Johnson Space Center has supported HTC by providing a loaned senior executive for the past 5 years. By bringing together entrepreneurs, existing businesses and a talented workforce, HTC is helping expand the critical mass needed to generate a new vibrant economy in key technology sectors.

The event will be a widely attended gathering of people from business, industry, government, and local communities. The event is of direct interest to NASA and will serve as an appropriate forum for facilitating the widest practicable dissemination of information concerning the Agency, the U.S. civilian space programs, and JSC educational and community outreach.

It is my determination that it is in the Agency's interest for NASA invitees and their guests to attend this event, and that such attendance outweighs any concern that the acceptance of any benefits may, or may appear to, improperly influence any NASA employee in the performance of official duties.

Accordingly, NASA invitees and their guests are authorized to attend this event and to accept any food and refreshments offered in conjunction with this event, at no cost.

"original signed by"

May 13, 2004

Daniel R. Remington
Deputy Chief Counsel

Date

cc:

AA/J. D. Howell, Jr.

AB/R. D. Cabana

AC/R. K. Gish